

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2747 - SB 2784

February 18, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the “Tennessee Advanced Placement (A.P.) and International Baccalaureate (I.B.) Diploma Incentive Program Act of 2008.” Subject to appropriation, requires the state to pay for all or part of A.P. and I.B. test fees. Establishes state-funded instructional grants for classroom equipment and instructional materials for A.P. and I.B. courses.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,702,500

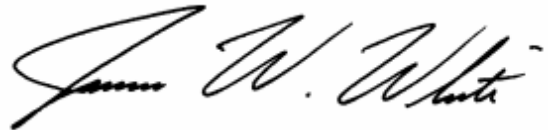
Assumptions:

- According to the Comptroller, 279 schools participated in the A.P. program in 2007 with 13,176 students taking approximately 21,259 A.P. exams. Five high schools and five middle schools offer an I.B. program. No new schools will offer I.B. or A.P. programs as a result of this bill due to faculty qualification and program requirements.
- I.B. one-time registration fees are not paid for under this bill.
- There will be no increase in the number of students taking A.P. courses beyond the average growth rate of one percent per year. There will be no growth in the number of students enrolling in the I.B. program because of the stringent requirements of the program.
- At Hillsboro High School in Davidson County, in 2007-08 there are 96 students enrolled in the I.B. program. The 96 students registered for 211 tests. It is assumed that approximately 100 students at each middle and high school offering I.B. will register for the I.B. program and take approximately two tests apiece per year (211 tests / 96 students = 2.1).
- The cost for I.B. test fees will be \$168,000 (100 students x \$84 x 2 tests x 10 schools = \$168,000).
- In the 2008-09 school year approximately 13,308 students will participate in the A.P. program. Approximately 26,616 tests will be taken.
- A.P. and I.B. tests cost \$84 per test. Each student in the A.P. and I.B. programs will take approximately two tests per year.

- The cost for A.P. tests will be approximately \$2,235,744 (26,616 tests x \$84 = \$2,235,744).
- It is assumed that the State Board of Education will implement a sliding scale income-based scale to determine a reduction in student test fees. It is assumed that this reduction in fees will be one-third of the total cost for exams. The state will pay for two-thirds of the total cost of A.P. and I.B. test fees. The total cost for A.P. and I.B. test fees is \$2,403,744 (\$2,235,744 + \$168,000 = \$2,403,744). The state will pay \$1,602,496.
- Grants for classroom materials and equipment will be subject to legislative appropriation and are estimated to exceed \$100,000 per year.
- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$1,702,496 (\$1,602,496 + \$100,000 = \$1,702,496).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/msg